



CITY HALL PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Meeting #3

Wednesday, May 31, 2006, 5:00 – 6:30 PM

Tashiro – Kaplan Building

115 Prefontaine Place

Vandenbrink Room

Before you leave this meeting you can:

Comment on the schematic design for City Hall Park improvements

Know the constraints on what can and cannot be built at the park

Learn great ways to stay involved in supporting City Hall Park!

Introductions, Cathy Tuttle, Seattle Parks

- PAT members
- Park staff
- Nakano Associates

Project Overview

- Scope, Schedule and Budget
- Review of community meetings
- Downtown Park and Open Spaces Task Force
- Landmarks, Design Commission

Parks staff comments:

- Parks staff presented a history of the project, including the relationship of King County to the park.
- Trees were planted about 40 years ago. Most are oaks planted to honor the United Nations. Some trees will need to be removed to allow effective grading of the slope and terrace.
- Fences will be added to define spaces and uses.
- City Hall Park is an important piece of the Center City Parks Initiative and the design will reflect this center city use.

Schematic Design, Nakano Associates.....

- Design Assumptions
- Public Comments

Public comments (and Parks' responses):

- The trees provide spaces with shelter and should not be removed. (Some trees will be removed to bring more light to the park and allow grading to occur.)
- Where is programming in the park going to be held? (at the "stage" area to the north and other plaza areas that will have utility hook-ups.)
- Can meal distribution continue in the park? (Meal programs will need to be permitted as they are in all Seattle Parks.)
- Could City agencies take the lead in getting meal program permits as part of their social service provider responsibilities? (Yes)

- **Make sure fence does not have a hedge next to it or visibility and safety will be compromised. (Noted)**
- **We're concerned about cleanliness and security. Park doesn't lend itself to a variety of uses. (Noted)**
- **How can a play area, bathroom, active areas fit into the park? (Nakano sketched the relative sizes and possible locations for these features on the southeast corner of the park)**
- **Don't like the idea of fences just to keep the homeless out at night (Fences will define spaces and uses but not be a barrier to using this public space)**

Summary & Next Steps.....

- Park Board Briefing/Hearing June 8
- Park Board Recommendation June 22

Contact Information:

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After July 1, 2006

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<http://www.seattle.gov/parks/maintenance/CityHallPark.htm>

This project helps to build strong families and healthy communities, one of Mayor Greg Nickels' priorities for a better Seattle.